



wisconsin department of
children & families

201 East Washington Avenue, Room B200

P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Early Care and Education
Bureau of Child Care Administration

August 9, 2011

Dear Child Care Provider:

Recent changes in the law authorize the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to implement cost savings measures in the Wisconsin Shares child care program including the reduction of child care provider rates. DCF is changing the way it reimburses licensed family child care providers as a cost savings measure. These changes are being made to ensure that the program has sufficient funding to meet future needs.

Effective August 28, 2011, all new Wisconsin Shares authorizations to licensed family child care providers will be Attendance based only. Enrollment based authorizations will no longer be available to licensed family child care providers, except for special needs children on a case-by-case basis.

New Authorization Policies for licensed family child care providers:

- Authorizations issued August 28, 2011 or later, will be paid only on an Attendance basis.
- Beginning August 28, 2011, authorizations that need to be backdated to time periods prior to August 28, 2011 will be paid on an Attendance basis only.
- Existing Enrollment based authorizations that were issued before August 28, 2011 will remain Enrollment based until their end date.

Attendance based authorization reimbursement policies

- Regular rate reimbursement will continue to be paid at the private pay rate or the county weekly maximum rate plus 10%, whichever is less, minus the parent's copayment.
- Manually calculated rates will continue to be paid at the manual rate minus the parent's copayment.

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- o County maximum rates will not be increased by more than 10% for licensed providers who are both accredited and providing care on an Attendance basis.
- o Payments will not be made for "holding a slot" for Attendance based authorized children.
- o Attendance based authorizations are not eligible for vacation payments or any other payment where there is no actual attendance by the child.

Thank you for serving Wisconsin's children and participating in the Wisconsin Shares program.

Sincerely,



Elaine Richmond, Administrator
Division of Early Care and Education

This letter is available in Hmong and Spanish on the Internet at:
<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares/provider/default.htm>

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<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares/provider/default.htm>

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